

JOHN MARION WIMMER: CALIFORNIA PIONEER, CIVIL WAR VETERAN, MORAVIAN

John Marion Wimmer (#856-3) was the son of Peter L. Wimmer Sr. and Mary (Harlan) Wimmer. A “vagabond” Harlan, John was born in Missouri, moved to California, married in Virginia, then settled in North Carolina. As a current resident of North Carolina, I (author Steve Harrison), decided to do some digging in John Wimmer’s wandering life after I learned he had lived in Salem for decades. (Salem, now known as Old Salem, merged with neighboring Winston to become what we now know as Winston-Salem).

Salem was, and remains, a Moravian community in Forsyth County. (The Moravian Church originated in ancient Bohemia and Moravia, now the Czech Republic, as one of the first Reformation-inspired churches. Moravians came to America during the colonial period.) Fortunately, the Moravian Church keeps an archive of church records and “memoirs.” Here is their description: “At the unique heart of our family history studies is a collection of memoirs of over 14,000 individual members of the Moravian Church from its beginnings in North Carolina until the present day. A Moravian memoir, known as a *Lenbenlauf* in German, is a spiritual resume of sorts: ideally written, reviewed, and revised by a member throughout his or her life, then shared with the congregation upon their passing, and gathered in our Archives. Memoirs are a blend of autobiography, obituary, and testimony that gives a wonderful amount of personal detail to long-ago lives.”

If the Wimmer name seems familiar, it is because they traveled overland to California in 1846 with the Harlan Party. Peter Wimmer stopped at Sutter’s Fort (now Sacramento) and worked for John Sutter. Sutter sent Peter and his family to Coloma to build a sawmill. Family history credits John Wimmer with discovering the first gold nugget in the mill race at Coloma. Jacob Wright Harlan, in his book “California ’46 to ’88”, tells the story of the discovery of gold as he recalled nearly four decades later. “About the first of 1847 [actually 1848] I received a letter from Uncle Peter which changed all my plans of life. In that letter he told that, sometime before, Captain Sutter had made a contract with him and J. W. Marshall to build for the captain a sawmill at Coloma on the south fork of the American River. Uncle Peter had four children [actually, five living children], three boys and a little girl-my cousins. While the millrace was being dug the children found it a place which they liked to play in, and one day, while they were thus playing, little John Wimmer, the second oldest boy, found a piece of gold of the value of about \$8. It was bright and pretty, and the child ran to the house and showed it to his father and to Marshall. It was washing day, and at Marshall’s suggestion the nugget was put into the wash-kettle among the boiling suds. After some little time it was found to be untarnished, and Marshall said it must be gold. He took it to Sutter’s Fort, where it was tested and found to be truly gold.” Jacob Wright Harlan is not a completely reliable source, and over the years historians have agreed to credit Marshall with finding the nugget. But the Wimmers were certainly there and played a role in the discovery of gold that led to the Gold Rush of 1848.

Let's return to the "Memoir of Brother John M. Wimmer" that I found when I visited the Moravian Archives in 2007. It tells of a life that seems like something from a Hollywood screen writer. Because of the engaging style in which it is written, I have decided to simply provide the entire memoir, with minor edits.

"Our departed brother, who on yesterday [August 3, 1917], with the passing day, entered into his eternal rest, was one whose romantic life was one of the few living ties that bound those of the present generation to the stirring period of the opening up of the great western region of America.

"His father, Peter Wimmer, of Ohio, was born in the little village that has since become the thriving city of Cincinnati. His mother [Mary Harlan] was a member of the Harlan family of Kentucky. John was born in Wayne County, Indiana [more likely born in Missouri], on July 27, 1832, and was one of a family of five children, four boys and one girl.

"His father was possessed of the pioneer spirit and was impelled by a roving disposition that sent him fearless and undismayed into all the privations and dangers of frontier life and in many of these experiences he took his son John with him. When some 10 years of age, our brother went with the family from Indiana to [Niles in Berrian] County, Michigan, and about 1844 [actually 1846] joined an emigration train at Independence [Missouri], for the territory of California. Eight months were required for the long and tedious journey thru forests, where they had to blaze their own trail over trackless plains and rough and rugged mountains. Many times they were in danger from the wild and untamed Red Men, and still oftener from other perils of the way. Arriving in California in due time they settled at Sutter's Fort, and the Mexican War breaking out at that time, the father and older sons volunteered for service, but left John in the fort where he became useful as an interpreter among the Indians for General Sutter.

"In 1848 while John, an older boy of 17 years, was standing on the bank of the mill race in which his father and a Mr. Marshall of New Jersey were working, he witnessed the first

discovery of gold that in the years immediately following lured so many thousands to the distant West.

"Then the father sent John to school. The most accessible one was a mission school on one of the Hawaiian Islands and there the son remained for several years.

"Returning to California, the father and son prospected for gold, and becoming measurably successful, decided to go East. They embarked at San Francisco, then a mere village, for the Isthmus of Panama, crossed Lake Nicaragua in a small board and shipped for New York. A short time after this they came to Virginia where the father had friends, and in Patrick County, the son met Miss Mary Russell Cloud, whom he married [on March 30, 1853], and with whom he came to Salem. [It is certainly worth nothing that Peter Wimmer, the father, was already married to Mary Russell Cloud's sister, Elizabeth Jane Cloud.] Their coming here was influenced by the fact that the wife was a member of the Moravian Mission at Mt. Bethel in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

"The union was blessed with five children, Peter, Alice, John, William and Frank.

"On Dec. 27, 1857, Bro[ther] Wimmer made profession of faith and connected himself with the Home Moravian Church [in Salem, NC].

"When the Civil War broke out he was early in volunteering [Confederate 48th North Carolina infantry] and at the [B]attle of Fredericksburg in 1862 was severely wounded, losing his leg in the early morning and his arm later in the day, as in sitting posture he continued to fight. Five other separate wounds came to him in the one day and he was left by the hospital corps to die on the field, as his case seemed hopeless. All [through] the long, bitterly cold night he lay in his wounded condition and in the morning called to a passing Negro boy and asked that he find someone to come to his rescue. Then came the hospital experience with its slow and painful treatment of gangrenous wounds and at length he was sent home to Salem.

"He taught school for a while in the country south of town, then established a line of wagons to High Point for the transportation of freight, and later confined service of a like kind to the town itself. In this work he became well known by every business interest of the city and in all his dealings he was ever fair, for almost forty years in Winston-Salem, and in all this time no one had charge of dishonestly and conscious fault to make against their owner. Greatly handicapped by his crippled condition and with many family sorrows to weigh him down, our brother kept bravely at his service until old age and increasing infirmity compelled him to relinquish his work some twelve years ago.

"Our brother's wife having died in the eighties [May 14, 1888], he was married a second time about 1893 [June 20, 1893] to Mrs. Nannie Smith of Rockingham [C]ounty. They made their home here among us until a few years ago when they went to live near Stoneville, in Rockingham Co., and there on Friday, August 3, 1917, about six o'clock in the evening, our brother's eventful life was ended, and he entered into the peace and rest of heaven, for which he had come to long greatly.

"He was a man of quiet manner, simple and frugal in his habits, kind in disposition and faithful and honest in all his obligations. He was pure in thought and speech and was respected and esteemed as a man of true worth by all who knew him, a brave soldier of the two-fold warfare, and a victor at the last.

"His last years of enforced inactivity had given him much time for quiet meditation and like the golden wheat of the harvest, his soul had ripened for eternity. For him, death was the blessedness of going home."



FIND A GRAVE: "WORLD'S LARGEST GRAVESITE COLLECTION"

Find a Grave (www.findagrave.com) got its start in 1995, but became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ancestry in 2013. However, it remains a free website. Find a Grave's mission is to help people from all over the world work together to find, record, and present final disposition information as a virtual cemetery experience. It can also be very useful for anyone doing family history research. A simple search may lead you to a "lost" ancestor!

At Find a Grave you'll find details about cemeteries and individual memorials for many people buried in those cemeteries. Many memorials are added by non-relatives working to document a particular cemetery. Therefore, the information may only include what is on the headstone, which is sometimes difficult to read. Memorials generally include birth, death and burial information, and may include pictures, biographies, family information, and more. Members can contribute what they know by sending an edit to the person who manages the memorial (simply click the "edit" button). The memorial may include the full given name, maiden name, and nicknames. It usually includes the cemetery name; however, people who were cremated, buried at sea, etc. may also have memorials created. It is also easy to add photographs of the headstone and of the person. An important feature is the ability to link a person to their parents (which in turn links them to siblings), spouse(s), and children.

Thus, Find A Grave has become much more than a place for "memorials." An example is the memorial I added for John M. Wimmer (Memorial ID #36461135). I have added one obituary and the "memoir" and there are links to 12 different people.

Steve Harrison, NC

GENEALOGY CORNER

MIGRATION ROUTES OF SOME EARLY HARLANS

A sleepless night recently led me to look through old notes I have accumulated over the years. Fueled by her love of family history, Liz Sly and her husband Bob spent many years traipsing around the eastern United States following the paths her Harlan ancestors traveled. Liz was also incredibly good at recording her findings and thoughts brought by so much research. Thus, this is where I began to formulate the idea of the Harlan migration route many of our ancestors took.

In re-reading Alpheus Harlan's early writing about George and Michael coming to America after purchasing land from William Penn, I had forgotten much of their story. George and Elizabeth Duck had four children by the time they left Ireland. It's hard to imagine coming in a ship very unlike today's massive ships to a new, still unsettled land. Michael was a single man until 1690 when he married Dinah Dixon.

George was a well-respected man who was community-minded and served in many positions in the Brandywine, PA area where the family lived on his extensive lands. George and Elizabeth eventually had eight children, who all remained in the area. But the next generation was ready to move. In 1753 Aaron, his wife, Sarah Hollingsworth, and their children moved in the company of others to Chatham County, NC and later to Laurens District, SC.

Before 1735, people on horseback found traveling muddy pathways of the King's Highway very difficult. There were several parallel routes being developed. The name King's Highway fell into disfavor because of the Revolutionary War. But troops on both sides of the war used it nevertheless. The routes followed the coastline more closely. Settlements were springing up, encouraging people to purchase land and establish homes for themselves. Small Quaker meetings had begun to be established by 1740.

As time went on, some chose to move on to Union District in South Carolina. Church affiliations began to change due to strict Quaker rules. Other denominations began to appear in family records. With the promise of new land opening to the west, the families continued to move. It appears families had extended relationships with other families as they appear to move about the same time. Crossing the Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains required finding gaps to make the crossing easier. Families often stopped for a period because of difficult winter travel. Babies being born and other family crises might also require downtime. Routes had become more established, and the word was passed along for others to find safer travel.

Many migrated through Tennessee and Kentucky to the Northwest Territory (which included the present-day states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin). This region had become attractive to abolition-minded folks because of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, which recognized there would be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude. Ohio and Indiana became very popular destinations. Quaker historian Rufus Jones estimated that by 1821 there were 20,000 Friends living west of the Allegheny Mountains. Three-quarters of them had come from the southern states, with 6,000 from North Carolina alone. Because of the massive migration from the south by the 1840s, Richmond, Indiana rivaled Philadelphia as a major Quaker center in the United States.

But the story doesn't end there. Many were in search of new land and new opportunities and, thus, pushed west. And so the Harlans continued to be part of the movement that found additional paths and new prospects as new territory opened farther west in the country.

Cynthia Rhoades, Director of Genealogy

If you have genealogy questions or comments, please contact our Director of Genealogy, Cynthia, at cr.rhoades@comcast.net. Please put "Harlan" in the subject line.

A SELECTION OF EARLY HARLAN MOVEMENTS



RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF RELEVANCE TO HARLAN KIN

Every few years, the Harlan Record presents recently published books with links to Harlans. Some of these have been featured in recent newsletters or on the Harlan Family in America social media outlets. Some may be new. Four are described here.

The Great Dissenter—The Story of John Marshall Harlan, America's Judicial Hero, by Peter S. Canellos, 2021. They say history is written by the victors. But not in the case of the most famous dissenter on the Supreme Court. Almost a century after his death, John Marshall Harlan's words helped end segregation and gave us our civil rights and our modern economic freedom.

His legacy would not have been possible without the courage of Robert Harlan, a slave who John's father raised like a son in the same household. After the Civil War, Robert emerges as a political leader. With Black people holding power in the Republican Party, it is Robert who helps John land his appointment to the Supreme Court.

At first, John is awed by his fellow justices, but the country is changing. Northern whites are prepared to take away black rights to appease the South. Giant trusts are monopolizing entire industries. Against this onslaught, the Supreme Court seemed all too willing to strip away civil rights and invalidate labor protections. So as case after case comes before the court, challenging his core values, John makes a fateful decision: He breaks with his colleagues in fundamental ways, becoming the nation's prime defender of the rights of Black people, immigrant laborers, and people in distant lands occupied by the U.S.

Harlan's dissents, particularly in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, were widely read and a source of hope. Thurgood Marshall called Harlan's *Plessy* dissent his "Bible" and his legal roadmap to overturning segregation. In the end, Harlan's words built the foundations for the legal revolutions of the New Deal and Civil Rights

eras.

Eliza Sims and Two Libraries, by Clinton Cross, 2023. Born in 1814, Eliza Harlan's biography exemplifies the life and challenges faced by Southern women before and after the Civil War. Her parents probably arranged her first marriage to a cousin. She was only 13 years old. When she was 26, her first husband died leaving her with four living children. Thereafter, she married three more times. She had children by her first and third husbands. Her first child by her first husband married a relative of her second husband. Her second child by her first husband married a relative of her third husband. Although her formal education was limited (because she first married at age 13), she was an avid reader. Her fourth husband and a child by her third husband, Oscar Dunlap, established the Nicholas P. Sims Library in Waxahachie, Texas, the first privately endowed library in Texas. Another child, Samuel M. Dunlap, Jr., established the Samuel M. Dunlap Memorial Library in Italy, Texas. Later, Ely Green, a mulatto person, wrote a biography "Too Black, Too White," and dedicated the book to her son, Oscar Dunlap. Her grandson Oliver Harlan Cross served in the United States House of Representatives.

My Grandfather Oliver Harlan Cross and the Ku Klux Klan, by Clinton Cross, 2023. Oliver Harlan Cross was born in 1868 in Alabama, shortly after the first Ku Klux Klan was created. He became the criminal prosecuting attorney in Waco, Texas, when the town was known as "Six Shooter Junction." Later, in 1922, he became a spokesman for the Anti-Klan League in Waco, Texas. After that, Cross ran for a seat in the United States House of Representatives at a time when only Whites could vote in the Democratic Primary (the only primary that mattered) and won. He served in Congress during the Great Depression of 1929, a transformative period in American politics. Finally, he lived to witness the election of John F. Kennedy as President of the United States of America. Many issues he confronted during his career remain relevant today.

Four Marys and a Jessie: The Story of the Lincoln Women, by C.J. King, Friends of Hildene, Manchester, VT, 2nd edition, 2015.

Four Marys and a Jessie is the tale of five women with an extraordinary family heritage. These are First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln; Mary Harlan Lincoln; the two Harlan-Lincoln granddaughters, Mary (Mamie) and Jessie; and Jessie's daughter, Mary Lincoln (Peggy) Beckwith. As wife, daughter-in-law, granddaughters, and great granddaughter of President Abraham Lincoln, their lives were constantly overshadowed by his, but this book allows their own individual personalities to shine and illuminates themes in women's history. Originally published in 2005, the 2nd edition includes new material about the First Lady's "insanity period" and about Mary Harlan Lincoln's relationship with the Christian Science Church.

Mary Harlan Lincoln's family line is: George 3, Aaron 8, George 37, George 180, Silas 677, James 2297, Mary Harlan Lincoln 5864. She shares much of her line with author C.J., but C.J. descends from Aaron 671, brother of Silas 677. It was during the course of her own family history research that C.J. discovered her link with the Lincolns.

Liberty Brought Us Here, The True Story of American Slaves Who Migrated to Liberia, by Susan E. Lindsey, 2020. Between 1820 and 1913, approximately 16,000 Black people left the United States to start new lives in Liberia, Africa, in what was at the time the largest out-migration in U.S. history. When Tolbert Major, a former Kentucky slave and single father, was offered his own chance for freedom, he accepted. He, several family members, and seventy other people boarded the *Luna* on July 5, 1836. After they arrived in Liberia, Tolbert penned a letter to his former owner, Ben Major: "Dear Sir, We have all landed on the shores of Africa and got into our houses.... None of us have been taken with the fever yet."

Drawing on extensive research and fifteen years' worth of surviving letters, author Susan E. Lindsey illuminates the trials and triumphs of

building a new life in Liberia, where settlers were free, but struggled to acclimate themselves to an unfamiliar land, coexist with indigenous groups, and overcome disease and other dangers. This book explores the motives and attitudes of colonization supporters and those who lived in the colony, offering perspectives beyond the standard narrative that colonization was driven solely by racism or forced exile.

Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home: Values into Action, by Friends of Hildene, Incorporated, 2019. Last fall, I was lucky enough to travel to the Northeast states during the "peeping" (leaf watching) season. What sealed the deal for me to go was a chance to visit Hildene in Manchester, VT on our guided tour. For those who don't know, Hildene was finished in 1905 for Robert Todd Lincoln and his wife, Mary Eunice Harlan, who was the daughter of Senator James Harlan and Ann Eliza Peck Harlan of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Robert, his mother, and his brother Tad, first visited Manchester in the summer of 1864, staying at the Equinox Hotel. Members of the Lincoln family went there frequently after that, so it is not surprising that, nearly forty years later, Robert Lincoln chose to build a summer family home near Manchester as a peaceful and cooler retreat from the heat of Washington, D.C. and Chicago.

Hildene was home to three generations of Lincolns between 1905 and 1975, when the last remaining survivor of the family, Mary Lincoln "Peggy" Beckwith died, having never married or having children. She was a hands-on farmer and loved the outdoors. Peggy stipulated in her will that Hildene was to be a memorial to the Lincoln family. In 1975, a newly formed group of neighbors and community leaders formed the Friends of Hildene and purchased the property so that they could restore the house and formal gardens and open it up to the public.

Hildene published a souvenir book in 2019, titled "Hildene – The Lincoln Family Home – Values Into Action", which I purchased at the Museum Store while there, and began to learn the much deeper and meaningful purpose of Hildene today. Focused on the values of integrity, perseverance, and civic responsibility, which Robert Lincoln's father, Abraham Lincoln,

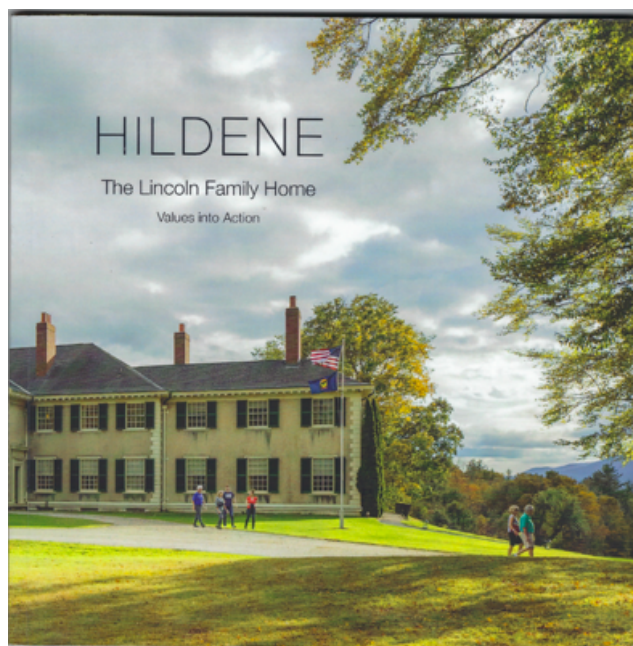
lived throughout his life, the property strives to put those values into action and bring them into the 21st century and beyond. The 412 acres of pristine Vermont land is an active farm with a forest and lumber mill, a micro goat dairy that produces milk and cheese year-round, preserved meadows and wetlands, and propagation and vegetable gardens, which are part of their sustainability efforts.

But most important, because of Abe's belief that "education is the most important subject that we as a people can be engaged in", education is the driving force of everything done at Hildene. They are especially charged to help youth understand the importance of agriculture and sustainability, working with students from the local high school and employing many young people to work on the property. In 2006, Hildene sponsored what has become an annual Lincoln Essay Competition, open to all 8th graders in the state of Vermont. The contest encourages students to reflect on Abraham Lincoln's legacy of civic responsibility and on what might be their own role and purpose in society.

The property also has preserved farmhouses and outbuildings, an original 1832 one-room school, a 600-foot floating boardwalk so visitors may see birds, fish, frogs, snakes, turtles and more, in their natural habitat. There is also a beautifully restored Pullman Sunbeam railroad car, like those produced by the Pullman Company. Robert Lincoln began working for the Pullman Company in 1894. Upon the death of the president of the company, George Pullman, Robert assumed the role in 1897. George had hired former house slaves from the South, but his business practices were more focused on profits rather than compassion, and his wage system was considered to be racially discriminatory. At the Pullman car exhibit, there is also a thought-provoking exhibit that explores the employment of Blacks as porters and other workers, their contribution toward the rise of the Black middle class, and their contribution to the American civil rights movement one hundred years on.

I wish I had been able to purchase this book before I spent the precious few hours at Hildene. I would have been exploring much more and

trying to enjoy all the sights and educational opportunities this unique historical property has to offer. If you ever get a chance to be up in New England, do try to make the visit to Hildene; you'll also enjoy the Museum Store with farm products made on site,, a large historical book area, and the beautiful landscaping and flower gardens behind the house. And be sure to get yourself a copy of their lovely and informative souvenir book.



Dorothy Harlan Sperry, IA, #6807-363

HARLAN FAMILY TOUR OF THE UK POSTPONED

There is good news and bad news-and they are both in this headline! We are planning to reschedule and restructure the Harlan family trip to the UK until 2025. As noted several times, there was a tremendous travel boost that occurred towards the end of the Covid-19 shutdown, and the cost of European travel soared. Unfortunately, there were not enough folks interested in the proposed trip, and a big part of that was the cost. We plan to cut the number of days and shuffle a few things around to lower the cost. Nancy will send out the new itinerary and cost to the original interested group and those who have reached out since. If you think you might be interested, email her at ngoodingrn@gmail.com to be added to the list. Or visit the Harlan Family in America website for updates.

JAMES R. HARLAN CALLED AS DEAN AND RECTOR TO AMERICAN CATHEDRAL IN PARIS, FRANCE

The American Cathedral in Paris, France has called the Reverend Canon James R. Harlan to be its next Dean and Rector. The Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, as the American Cathedral is formally known, was the first American Episcopal Church outside the United States when it was established in 1859. It was consecrated as a cathedral 100 years ago and is now the seat of the Bishop-in-Charge of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, which counts nine parishes and a dozen missions and congregations.

James took up his new position in late August 2023. He was previously the Canon Evangelist for the Diocese of Southern Virginia. Prior to his current position, he has served in parishes in Florida and Colorado, and as a Navy chaplain in various parts of the world.



The Reverend James Harlan

James lived and worked in Colorado from birth until 2011. He and his wife Eli (short for Elizabeth) have been married for 26 years and have a 23-year-old child, Orrin, who lives in Gainesville, Florida.

James attended the University of Colorado College of Business and studied at l'Université de Bordeaux during his junior year. He and his family also spent a sabbatical summer in Paris in 2009, adding to his French fluency.

He has solely focused on serving the church since the age of 20, when he became an assistant youth minister at St. John's Cathedral in Denver. It was during this time that he began the ordination process, attending seminary at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

James is the son of Donald Lock and Kay Louise (Franklin) Harlan, the grandson of Leon Sylvester and Kathryn Mary (Lock) Harlan and the great-grandson of John Oliver and Ida Louise (Endebrook) Harlan. He is the fourth youngest of five children of Donald and Kay. He has a sister, Anne, and brothers Donald, Jr., John and David. He descends from George and Elizabeth (Duck) Harlan, through George's son, grandson, and great-grandson, all of whom were named Aaron.

THE HARLAN RECORD

is published semiannually by:

**The Harlan Family in America
P.O. Box 333
Pleasant Unity, PA 15676**

It is a permanent organization established to document the historical contributions made by Harlans in America. Submissions of articles are welcome, are subject to editing and may be held for future use. Send articles to the Editor, Stephanie Hines at stephanieshines@gmail.com or mail to: 1733 Dali Way, Hanford, CA 93230.

Current and previous issues of *The Harlan Record* are also available online at www.harlanfamily.org. Consider going digital to save paper and printing costs. To add or change your address for *The Harlan Record* or to request an electronic copy via email, send the information to:

**The Harlan Family in America
P.O. Box 333
Pleasant Unity, PA 15676**

or email: gerrylun@myfmtc.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Who are the oldest people in your direct family? Have you ever sat down with them and written down their stories? What can those elders tell you about the oldest people they knew when they were young, before many people alive today were born?

Memories and stories are lost forever when a person dies – unless someone writes them down. In some families, grandchildren write biographies of their grandparents while they're still alive, documenting their recollections before it's too late.

It's also important (and fun) to go through old photos with your elders so they can identify people's names and dates (or at least estimates of) when the photos were taken. An old photo with people that nobody can identify is very sad. Once we document these memories, we need to share them! Digital and online programs like Family TreeMaker and Ancestry make this easier. It's good to find birth, death, and marriage certificates; but it's even better to find (and share) personal stories and photos from when ancestors were different ages. One of my favorite online "finds" was a photograph of my grandparents taken before they had children. My grandfather died long before I was born, and I only knew my grandmother as an elder. This photo proves that they were once young lovebirds!

I hope we can all capture more of our family members' personal histories and then share them, both online and when we gather at family gatherings and reunions!

Speaking of reunions, our next board meeting will be in Sacramento, California to explore that area as a potential site for our 2027 reunion. We'd love to hear from anybody who can share what their line of Harlans did when they were in that part of California.

*Mike Harlan
President, Harlan Family in America
Louisville, Kentucky, USA*

AN INVITATION TO SACRAMENTO, CA

Your Harlan Family Board will be meeting in Sacramento, CA on Saturday, June 22, 2024. We will explore the city and surrounding area to decide if this is where we want to hold our Reunion Celebration 340 in 2027. We invite you to join us on our exploration and to visit our board meeting. Board members will be staying from Wednesday, June 20 to Sunday, June 23. Please contact me if you would like to join us for any of this time. I will be happy to provide more details as well as information about room reservations.

If we decide to hold the reunion in the Sacramento area, we will need local volunteers to assist with reunion planning and operations.

On a personal note, I attended my first board meeting as a visitor in 2003. I had never attended a Harlan Family Reunion but wanted to be involved in the West, so jumped at the chance when the meeting was held in Reno in preparation for Reunion 320. Throughout the weekend my husband and I felt so welcomed and left connected to the board members. Since then my leadership in the family organization has been an important part of my life.

Pat Fluetsch
pfluetsch@icloud.net

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HARLAN REUNION

The Harlans of western Pennsylvania are hosting their 100th reunion August 10, 2024 at McConnells Mill State Park in Portersville, PA. If you are a descendant from the Jonathan clan, please join us. To RSVP or order T-shirts, please contact Jessica Perine at jesse62184@gmail.com. We are trying to gather at least 100 people for the 100th reunion!

Jessica Perine, PA

HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

OFFICERS

President – Mike Harlan
1321 Leighton Circle, Louisville, KY 40222
Vice President – Nancy Gooding
4478 Tea Olive Dr, Evans, GA 30809
Secretary - Gerry Harlan Lundgren
2517 190th, Stanton, IA 51573
Treasurer - Robert A. Harlan
326 Firestone Rd, Greensburg, PA 15601

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pat Fluetsch (CA)
Fred Harlan (PA)
Robert R. Harlan (CA)
Tony Harlan (PA)
Peggy Harlan Hewitt (OH)
Ed Hill (KY)
Debbie Hines (CA)
Mary Murphy (PA)
Dorothy Harlan Sperry (IA)
Robert C. Walters (PA)

BOARD MEMBERS EMERITUS

Junior F. Harlan (AZ)
Tom Harlan (WA)
C. J. King (VT)
Liz Harlan Sly (VA)

BOARD MEMBERS ETERNAL

Ridge Harlan (CA)
Dan Harlan (VA)
John Harlan (GA)
Virginia Harlan Hess (MO)
Jonathan V. Harlan (TN)
Becky Hines (FL)
Ruth Harlan Lamb (MO)

THE 90+ Club

Welcome to Carl Armond Rodriguez, who recently turned 90 years old! Carl makes his home in the Lone Star State of Texas. Carl was a boatswain who served in Korea and Vietnam, first in the Navy and retiring from the Coast Guard. He is a grandfather of eight and great

grandfather of two. Until recently, he was an avid horseman. He still cares for his horses and longhorns. He is an active Shriner and Mason.

If you have a family member you'd like recognized in the 90+ Club, please send their name, address, date of birth and a short bio to Denise Walters at rdwalters931@gmail.com. Address changes for 90+ members should also be sent to Denise via The Harlan Family in America, P.O. Box 333, Pleasant Unity, PA 15676. Updated information helps us maintain our records and is greatly appreciated.

REMEMBRANCE FUND

Donations in honor/memory of
Virginia Harlan Gleason

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

(Received after 8/1/23)

John D. Harlan (IA)
Kenneth Harlan (IN)
Mike Harlan (KY)
Rex A. Hess (IL)
John McDowell Morris (MD)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account Balance (8/1/23) \$6,579.00

INCOME

Donations \$1,048.77

TOTAL INCOME

\$1,048.77

DISBURSEMENTS

Fall newsletter* \$1,483.55

PO Box \$120.00

Harlan-Lincoln House \$500.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$-2103.55

Checking Account Balance
(3/1/24)

\$5,524.22

Certificate of Deposit

\$18,334.59

*reading the digital version via the website or email link saves paper and costs.

THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA
P.O. Box 333
Pleasant Unity, PA 15676



Address service requested

INFORMATION FORM - Use this form to be added to our mailing list, update your contact information, request electronic copies of the Harlan Record, or to mail your contribution to The Harlan Family in America.

Name _____

Current Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please check the appropriate blank below:

_____ Address addition/change/or correction

_____ Please send newsletter via email

Email address _____

Contribution Amount \$ _____

_____ To the Association

_____ To the Remembrance Fund in Memory Of

_____ In Honor Of _____ Make checks payable to: **THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA** and SEND TO: **THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA, P.O. Box 333, Pleasant Unity, PA 15676**